



The Messenger

December 2009

Pastor Gregory Pope

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Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

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A Time to Prepare

Advent is a time to highlight repentance in our spiritual lives. We prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming. We put ourselves in the position of the ancients who didn't yet know the name Jesus, because he hadn't been born yet. They simply clung to the Old Testament promises of a Savior sent from God who would deliver sinful mankind. They searched with wide-eyes of faith for the fulfillment of those prophecies. So we find joy putting ourselves in the sandals of those shepherds in the fields nearby, who kept watch over their flocks by night. What other-worldly exhilaration must have been theirs, as the great company of resplendent angels directed them to the newborn Christ-child!

Advent is both a time to look back and a season to look forward. That's because Advent, a latin word meaning "coming", also directs our eyes to the final coming of the Christ at the end of time. The ancients looked for his first coming; we watch for his second. Philippians 3 puts us in the mood. **"Our citizenship is in heaven and we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ."**

Our ultimate looking ahead to heaven really puts our whole Christian life in the mode of looking forward. So I thought I'd finish this article by mentioning some of the things my family does to look forward to Christmas. You can probably relate to some of these things. For one, there's certain Christmas movies we like to watch each year. Among them – *Home Alone* for my wife and I, also the *Charlie Brown Christmas Special*, and *It's a Wonderful Life*. My parents have a tradition of watching *The Bishop's Wife*. This is another of those great old-time classic Christmas movies to put you in the spirit of repentance and hope in the Lord. Many of you like to set up light displays outside your homes, put up a Christmas tree, and take a trip in the car to drive around and look at light displays. These are all solid ways to get in the Christmas spirit. Through all these traditions, may your heart's thrill be in the Messiah who was once newborn and now rules in peace for us on high.

Pastor Gregory Pope



Message From The President

TRINITY'S THANKFULNESS

We have just ended the Thanksgiving Holiday and started the Advent season. The congregation at Trinity has much to be thankful for. I will try to list some that come to mind.

- * We started using the new entrance (east side) to church on Thanksgiving Day.
- * Our Building Expansion Project is wrapping up.
- * We have new carpet in the church sanctuary thanks to a generous donation.
- * There have been generous donations for a new sign on the front of our new addition.
- * We had a cool summer during the construction when we did not have air conditioning.
- * We did not have snow accumulation in November like last year.
- * The weather overall was the best we could have prayed for during the construction.
- * The committees that did an enormous amount of work for the addition.
- * The patience of the congregation during the construction.
- * The continued financial support of the project.
- * The committees, boards, church council, and all those who work continually to make our congregation run smoothly.
- * Our Pastor who works constantly to take care of our spiritual needs and also lends his muscle whenever there is physical work to be done.
- * The blessing of our Lord and Savior on our congregation. His true Word is what we are most thankful for.

I know you can think of many more blessing our congregation can be thankful for. Let's pray that the Lord continues to shower his blessings on Trinity.

John Smith, Trinity Congregational President

News from the WELS **Synodical Council looks to the future**

From the office of President Mark Schroeder

The Synodical Council (SC) met last week to begin the task of crafting a long-range, comprehensive plan that will guide the synod in its work during the next 8-10 years. The synod's bylaws assign this responsibility to the SC, and last summer's convention directed that the SC begin the work, present a progress report to the districts next summer, and bring a final plan to the 2011 convention for adoption.

As might be expected, the planning session began with a lengthy study of Scripture and the theological truths in which our synod is grounded. This Word-centered discussion highlighted the unity of faith and belief with which God has blessed our synod and its leaders. From that beginning, the SC discussed the nature and purpose of the synod. While it is true that we can think of the synod as a large family of individual believers, we can also view the synod as an organization established to carry out a specific function. The SC determined that the long-range plan will focus on the latter aspect and adopted the following as a statement of purpose that will guide the planning work:

"The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod exists to give all glory to God by upholding, defending, and proclaiming the truth of the Holy Scriptures as articulated in the Lutheran Confessions, and by providing a means for congregations and their members to extend the reach of their God-given mission of proclaiming the gospel in Word and sacrament through joint mission efforts at home and abroad and through the training of pastors, teachers, and staff ministers."

The SC discussed the many strengths of our synod, areas that need improvement and attention, and the many opportunities that God is placing before us. A committee chaired by the synod's first vice president, and composed of the synod president and the three area of ministry administrators will begin to outline a comprehensive long-term plan which, according to a SC resolution,

- a) describes a "future state" for the synod;
- b) works with all parties;
- c) makes use of existing resources;
- d) satisfies the 2009 convention resolution; and
- e) flows out of our synodical philosophy of ministry.

The plan is to have a working document ready for the joint Synodical Council and Conference of Presidents meeting in April, which can then be presented to the districts in convention in summer of 2010.

Other SC decisions included:

- * Took action to reduce the overall travel and meeting budget of the synod by \$400,000, in keeping with the convention's resolution.
- * Adopted new guidelines for the budgeting and use of special funds.
- * Considered up-to-date financial information and made no change to the Support Forecast.
- * Encouraged the Board for Home Missions to continue planning for new mission efforts and to bring proposals for such new efforts to the February meeting of the SC.
- * Established a new Human Resources Oversight Committee to assist the Human Resources director in making continuing improvements in the area of Human Resources.
- * Accepted an invitation from the Conference of Presidents to meet jointly for one day in April 2010.

Serving in Christ,
Mark Schroeder

Pastor offers comfort in Ft. Hood Aftermath

Rev. Steve Dorn, pastor at Abiding Savior in Killeen, Tex., and WELS military contact pastor for nearby Ft. Hood, continues to minister and offer comfort to his members impacted emotionally by the shooting rampage there Nov. 5 that left 13 dead and about 30 others injured.

Twenty-one families from the congregation either live on the base or have members who work there as civilians or service personnel. Another six congregation members are military personnel stationed at Ft. Hood but deployed elsewhere. None was among the killed or injured. Dorn says one of the wives of a deployed soldier remarked how strange it was to feel thankful that her husband *wasn't* home.

Still, with 90 percent of the congregation having direct ties to the base, Dorn says his members have been "shaken." On Nov. 8, the first Sunday after the shootings, Dorn introduced the worship service with the following words: "In worship we are not going to have all the answers this morning. But we are reminded that God does rule—he rules our lives with his wisdom, power, and love. That is a truth that cannot be changed."

Dorn says as he meets with families individually, he's hoping they are at peace. "I'm directing them to the overriding peace we have in Christ; I do that every chance I get," Dorn says.

Dorn says if there's any one common reaction to the tragedy it's that his members are praying, not for themselves, but for the family of the alleged shooter, Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan. "They're praying for that guy's family who will be facing a lot of hatred," says Dorn.

Dorn says he also has been spending time in prayer. "We thank God for watching over us. We pray that those dealing with the pain of injury and death, and the anger brought on by betrayal, will find peace and safety in Jesus."

Lutheran Schools positions filled

Mr. Greg Schmill and Mr. Jeff Inniger have accepted their calls to the Commission on Lutheran Schools (CLS), one of the six areas in the recently renamed and reconfigured Congregation and Ministry Support Group. Schmill will serve as interim director and Inniger as associate director, a position he held under the former Commission for Parish Schools.

"I look forward to working with Jeff Inniger and all connected to CLS to do all we can to assist our WELS congregations by providing resources, training, and personal assistance for starting and strengthening our Lutheran schools," says Schmill, a member at Immanuel, Manitowoc, Wis. Schmill formerly served as the Forward with Lutheran Schools consultant under Parish Assistance, a fee-based consulting service for individual congregations. Although Parish Assistance was discontinued in its current form, the Forward with Lutheran Schools program is moving under the Commission on Lutheran Schools. Part of Schmill's responsibilities will be to continue to implement that program, which helps congregations that want to strengthen their schools or begin new children's ministries. "While it is possible that the number of congregations served may need to be limited, the goal is to serve all congregations seeking assistance in a very timely matter," says Schmill.

Schmill and Inniger also will work to support the 3,000-plus teachers and 500-plus schools in the WELS school system; coordinate the WELS accreditation program; and oversee the redesign of the Team Ministry Process, which helps school ministry teams focus on their mission and grow professionally.

Schmill will transition into his new position in December. The Conference of Presidents hopes to call a permanent CLS director by June 30, 2010, and is currently exploring if enough money will be available to call a third person to Lutheran Schools to more fully support the Forward with Lutheran Schools program and the growing number of early childhood ministries.

A director of Adult Discipleship and Youth Discipleship is the only vacancy that remains in the Congregation and Ministry Support Group.

Cutbacks at NPH

Declining retail sales and a difficult financial environment for denominational publishers are forcing Northwestern Publishing House (NPH) to eliminate nine full- and part-time staff positions effective Dec. 30. One of the positions is a called full-time editor, reducing the number of called workers at NPH to five.

In a memo to all employees, NPH President Jerry Loeffel said: "Decisions like this are never easy. We value the contributions these staff members have made to our organization over the years. All have been great employees with solid skills and a willingness to go the extra mile. While these layoffs are difficult, they are absolutely necessary for the well-being of Northwestern Publishing House."

For the first three months of the current fiscal year, sales at NPH—the official publisher for WELS—are down seven percent at its retail store in Milwaukee compared with the same time as last year and six percent behind budget projections. The drop in sales over the past several years is consistent with losses faced by other Christian retailers throughout the country.

Additional cost-saving measures include opening the store one hour later, at 10 a.m., Monday through Saturday. Ordering and subscription services will operate from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. instead of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. These changes will take effect Jan. 1, 2010. Also, the NPH Board of Directors has concurred with management's recommendation to downsize its retail space. Those changes are anticipated sometime after the Christmas shopping season.

First quarter Budget Results

Results for the first quarter of the synod's fiscal year 2010 ending Sept. 30 show support and revenue of \$19.1 million exceeded expenses of \$17.4 million by \$1.7 million. The resulting increase in net assets is partially due to revenues being received before corresponding expenses are incurred—a timing difference that is expected to reverse by the end of the fiscal year. But also contributing to the increase is improvement in investment performance as financial markets continue to recover from their March and April lows.

"The results for the quarter are about what we expected," says Mr. Todd Poppe, chief financial officer. Congregation Mission Offerings (CMO), the offerings submitted by congregations for the collective ministry of the synod, for calendar year 2009 are about 2.1 percent or \$300,000 less than the prior year and are in line with the budget and congregation commitments. The Conference of Presidents remains confident those commitments will be realized by the end of the year. "The CMO performance is encouraging given the challenging economic times," Poppe says.

Of continuing concern is the decrease in support from one of the major foundation donors to WELS. It has announced reductions in support of about \$6 million in its annual grant over the last two years. There are hopes that gifts from congregations in response to November's VEBA premium holiday and the establishment of a new foundation in support of WELS may offset some of the loss. In any event, the full impact of any loss in foundation support won't be felt in the current fiscal year due in large part to the creation of the Financial Stabilization Fund adopted by the 2009 synod convention. Under this change, funds from foundations, individuals, and bequests are held in this fund and distributed the year after they are received. Thus, the impact of the foundation reduction will not be felt until the next fiscal year. If support from CMO and other sources does not make up for the foundation reduction, the budget for the next fiscal year may need to be cut by a million dollars or more.

The first quarter's report is the first under a new approach to budgeting proposed by the Synodical Council and adopted by the 2009 synod convention. Beginning in fiscal year 2010, the financial reports include not just the synod's operating budget, but also its special funds and its schools. For example, revenue now includes all revenue and support and all the costs of the four ministerial education schools.

Historically, only the operating subsidy was reported. In numerical terms, the reports will now focus on the nearly \$60 million in ministry conducted by the synod rather than just the \$30 million budget if only synod's operations were reported.

The Bible-Book of Ezekiel

This month's part of the Bible focus' is on the Book of Ezekiel.

THE PROPHET EZEKIEL

Ezekiel's name means "God strengthens." He is often called "son of man" in his book, a name that implies human weakness and mortality. But his proper name, "Ezekiel," reminds us that his strength came from God. When Ezekiel's ministry was completed, the people indeed knew that a strong prophet of God had been among them. God strengthened, as his name says. Ezekiel prophesied at the same time as Jeremiah but in a different location. Ezekiel was the prophet to the exiles in Babylon. He was born about 622 B.C. in Judah to a priestly family. His father's name was Buzi. Until he was about 25 years old he lived in Judah. Then in 597 B.C. he was carried off to Babylon together with Jehoiachin and about 10,000 other Jews. (Remember that Daniel had been similarly carried off to Babylon eight years earlier in 605 B.C.) In Babylon he lived with the other Jews of the Captivity by the Kebar River, a canal connecting the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in Babylon. We know little more about Ezekiel's personal life except that he was married but later lost his wife in death at the same time that Jerusalem was besieged in 588/587 B.C. (Chap. 24). After spending five years of captivity in Babylon, God called Ezekiel "**in the thirtieth year.**" (1:). This probably means the thirtieth year of Ezekiel's life. His ministry lasted more than 20 years among the exiles. As his name suggests, Ezekiel was a strong preacher. His message came from God who had called him. To point out that his message was not his own but God's, Ezekiel liked to use the expression, "**the hand of the Lord was upon me**" (1:3). His message and his book are therefore the result of divine inspiration. Although his preaching was strong, clear, interesting, and from God, still his words were usually resented and rejected. When God called him, He warned him that his message would often fall on hard hearts. But still he was to faithfully preach. God had said: "**And whether they listen or fail to listen - for they are a rebellious house - they will know that a prophet has been among them**" (3:5). Like Jeremiah, Ezekiel is a splendid example of a faithful church worker who did not give up when the going was difficult. In the end the faithful preaching of Ezekiel and the other faithful prophets must have brought some results. After the Babylonian Captivity, the Jews were cured of open idolatry. God's word never returns to him empty when it is faithfully preached. It always accomplishes what He desires. Ezekiel's prophetic career can logically be divided into two periods. The first period was the time before the destruction of Jerusalem in 587 B.C. During this period he preached with sharp words condemning the people's sins and threatening destruction for Jerusalem. During the second period of his ministry, following the destruction in 587 B.C., Ezekiel's message was mainly one of comfort and the promise of the restoration of Israel.

THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

The entire book with its 48 chapters is written in the first person ("While I was among the exiles ... I saw visions of God ... he said to *me*"). It is obvious from this that Ezekiel himself is the author of the book that carries his name.

GENERAL OUTLINE OF EZEKIEL:

- 1. Ezekiel's Call (1-3)** The prophet is given a special vision of God's glory. Then he eats the scroll on which are written the words of awe that he is to preach. He is commanded to be God's watchman to the people in exile, to warn them of their evil ways in order to save their lives.
- 2. Prophecies Against Jerusalem (4-24)** Ezekiel predicts Jerusalem's destruction by symbolic acts; see 4-7. Ezekiel is carried in spirit to Jerusalem to see the sins being carried on in the city. He also sees the glory of the Lord depart from the temple, a symbol that depicts God leaving his unrepentant people; see 8-11. In chapters 12-24 we find symbolic sermons and actions of Ezekiel that tell of the coming fall of Jerusalem. Chapter 24 is an especially sad chapter. It tells of the death of the prophet's wife, for whom he is not permitted to mourn. The day she dies, the siege of Jerusalem begins. This is a symbolic picture for the exiles. Just as death ended Ezekiel's

relationship with his wife, so God's special relationship with Jerusalem ended and destruction followed.

3. Prophecies Against the Nations (25-32)

4. Prophecies of the Restoration of Israel (33-48) These prophecies include beautiful prophecies of the coming Kingdom of Christ (see 34:23). Chapter 37, concerning the vision of the dry bones, is an especially well-known chapter of the Bible. Just as dry bones were revived into a vast army, so hopeless Israel would be restored.



Remember Bible Class on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., we are studying Hebrews 11 - *Hebrews of the Faith*. We meet the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month for this session.

Also in the Sunday morning class at 8:15 a.m., we are studying *Catholicism Today*. Please note all Bible classes meet in church, but we hope to move to the church basement in the next few weeks.



Announcements

Sunday School

Parents please remember the memorization for the Sunday School Christmas Eve service. Also Christmas practice is Dec. 12th at 9:00, with pizza party to follow and then caroling.

Youth Group

Christmas at Sinawa is December 5 & 6 from 4 til 9 p.m. The Trinity Teens decorated their cabin on Sunday November 29. Thanks to everyone that helped with the decorating. Come on out to see the wonderful job they did.

December meeting and activity is December 19 at 2 p.m. in the church office. After the devotion and meeting, the teens will play board games and possibly Rockband on the Xbox 360. Snacks will be served.

At the December meeting dates will need to be set for the January, February and March meetings. Parents either plan on attending the meeting or let your teen know what dates they will be able to attend. The plan is to go to Funset Blvd in January, ice skating in February and bowling in March. Parents please show your support by encouraging your teen(s) to attend the meetings and activities. Parents you are also welcome to attend meetings and activities.

All youth in the congregation in grades 6 through 12 are members of Trinity Teens and are able to attend and participate in any activities that they want to.

Trinity Ladies Circle

The Trinity Ladies' Circle held their last meeting on Tuesday, November 24, 2009. We discussed "witnessing at work." Elections were held for vice-president and treasurer. Officers for 2010 are as follows:

President	Linda Wallander
Vice-President	Jennifer Pope
Secretary	Darlene Kiesow
Treasurer	Donna Nagel

After our business meeting we decorated the church for Thanksgiving. Then, thanks to Linda Wallander and Lois Fischer, we learned how to make a Christmas centerpiece. Each of us made one of our own to take home and enjoy for the holiday season.

We are planning a social night at Denny's Pizza Garden in Manitowoc on December 15. This gathering is for any men and/or women of the congregation interested in enjoying Christian fellowship and good food. Social hour will start between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m. and we plan to eat at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Cindy Williamson (758-2726) by December 13 if you are interested in attending. We hope to see many of you there!

Our next business meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2010, at which time we'll have our next book discussion on "Tending Roses." As always, all women of the congregation are invited to join us and learn more about our group!

Choir

Here is the remaining schedule for the month of December. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Pope. So please come and join us!

Dec. 17 (1/2 hr. after church)

Dec. 20 (1/2 hr. after church)

Fellowship Committee

New Member Welcome

Please join us on Sunday, December 13th to welcome our new members. Cookies and beverages will be served in the narthex after church.

Food Pantry Collection

We are collecting non-perishable food for Peters Pantry the first 3 weekends in December. Please drop off your donations in the boxes located in the narthex. The food will be delivered to the pantry just before Christmas.

Candy Bags

Everyone is welcome to help fill the candy bags on Saturday, December 19 at 9am in the church basement. These bags are distributed to the children attending the Christmas Eve service.

Christmas Concert at Trinity

Our Christmas Concert this year will feature the Neustadter Trio at 7:00 pm Sat., December 12th.

Schedule for Christmas

There will be no worship service on Dec. 26th. We will have communion Dec. 13th, 27th and 31st.

Shut-ins

These are the following members that are in nursing homes. Please remember them in your prayers and if you have time, give them a visit.

Viola Rusch- River's Bend, Manitowoc

Elaine Sieker & Sylvia Kasten-River Wood Estates, Manitowoc

Ralph Schultz-Fox River Assisted Living, Appleton
Caroline Schwalbe- Felician Village-Manitowoc

These are list of the homebound members:

Allen Reichardt
Myron Schreiber
Harold Gulikson
Bernice Pleuss

Cancellations

With the winter coming upon us sometimes activities and church will be cancelled. With that in mind please listen to especially WCUB and WOMT, and also WLUK, WBAY or WFRV.

Altar Flowers and WCUB Radio Broadcast

Please remember that you can put flowers on the altar for any occasion – just let the church secretary know. Also remember the WCUB Radio Broadcast is \$85.00 to sponsor a Sunday, just make a check out to church and put it in the secretary's mailbox. The sign up sheet for flowers and the broadcast will return after the first of the year.

Things to do...

There are many concerts to check out this time of the year. Here are some of them.

Zion –Louis Corners - Dec.12th, 3:00 p.m. They are having an old fashioned German Christmas Service. The service- Liturgy, bible passages with responsive hymns will be in German.

Valders High School - Dec.13th, 3:00 p.m. at the Capital Civic Center

Manitowoc Lutheran High School - Dec.23rd, 4:30 p.m.& 7:30 p.m. at the Capital Civic Center.

A reminder

If you have a change of address or telephone number, please inform the church secretary.

News from St. John's –Thank You, Student Teachers

The student teachers completed their training at St. John's November 13. Miss Wessel is a mid-year graduate and will be getting married in December. Miss Raddatz will look to be placed by the assignment committee in May. Miss Whiting will return to MLC for a fifth year and graduate in 2011 prepared to teach at either the grade school or high school level.

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming piano recital, held in our church, on December 12th, at 6 p.m.

We will be offering a variety of Spirit Wear for sale. Look for the displays in our entryway, coming soon (probably after Thanksgiving). Orders will be taken for two weeks, so they will be here in time for Christmas.

On December 13th, The St. John's Junior Choir will be singing at Trinity-Liberty.

MLHS Events

Sun 12/13 Middle School Band Concert at MLHS; 4:00pm

Wed 12/23 MLHS Christmas Concert @ Capitol Civic Centre; 4:30 & 7:30pm

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Christmas Bells 1864

This poem was written on December 25th 1864 during the American Civil War by one of America's greatest writers, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. The references to this war were removed when the poem was rearranged and set to music by John Baptiste Calkin in 1872.

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
And thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
Till, ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime
A chant sublime
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
Then from each black accursed mouth
The cannon thundered in the South,
And with the sound
The carols drowned
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
It was as if an earthquake rent
The hearth-stones of a continent,
And made forlorn
The households born
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
And in despair I bowed my head;
"There is no peace on earth," I said;
"For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"
Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead; nor doth he sleep!
The Wrong shall fail,
The Right prevail,
With peace on earth, good-will to men!"



I have always thought of Christmas time as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely.

Charles Dickens- " A Christmas Carol"



Church Attendance for November



Combined Total for Saturday/Sunday

November 2006

Week 1: 27/180=207

Week 2: 29/121=151

Week 3: 38/89=127

Week 4: 34/89=123

Thanksgiving 123

Monthly: 723

November 2007

Week 1: 18/158=176

Week 2: 60/85=145

Week 3: 37/119=156

Week 4: 24/154=178

Thanksgiving 125

Monthly: 780

November 2008

Week 1: 29/110=139

Week 2: 47/128=175

Week 3: 52/113=165

Week 4: 36/ 92=128

Thanksgiving 139

Week 5: 32/107=135

Monthly: 881

November 2009

Week 1: 42/107=149

Week 2: 55/107=162(Sunday
School sang)

Week 3: 43/82=125

Thanksgiving 133

Week 4: 30/111=141

Monthly: 710

"God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

John 4:24



A Happy Birthday and God's Blessings to...

- | | |
|--|---|
| 12/1 Lisa Kiesow | 12/12 Benjamin Kiesow |
| 12/2 Allyson Jungbluth | 12/12 Joshua Kiesow |
| 12/3 Carol Kasten | 12/13 Lawrence Teesch |
| 12/4 Kim Fischer | 12/14 Brittany Kenneke |
| 12/5 Sherri Kasten | 12/15 Alex Free |
| 12/6 Benjamin Lovell | * 12/15 Elaine Sieker-90 yrs. young |
| * 12/6 Bernice Pleuss-88 yrs. young | 12/17 Denise Preston |
| 12/7 Chad Knutson | 12/23 A.J. Kenneke |
| 12/7 Beckee Williamson | * 12/24 Lorena Nagel-96 yrs. young |
| 12/8 Mark Kiesow | * 12/26 Janet Matthias-80 yrs. young |
| 12/10 Dean Bratz | 12/26 Breanna Hansen |
| 12/10 Kaitlin Bushman | 12/26 Chase Skinkis |
| 12/11 Todd Glaeser | 12/27 James W. Ott |
| 12/11 Shelby Johnson | 12/29 Charlotte Luebke |
| 12/11 Jodi Lovell | 12/31 Eunice Barnes |
| * 12/11 Caroline Schwalbe-86 yrs. young | 12/31 Emma Krueger |



Happy Anniversary To...

- 12/6 David & Jessica Jungbluth – 12 Years!
12/10 Bob & Gail Lietzau – 26 Years!
12/17 Steve & Bonnie Wagner – 17 Years!

If you have a December birthday or anniversary and it is not listed correctly please let us know so we can update your information. Thanks!

Date: Ushers on Schedule:

December 5th Dave Williamson, Peter Liermann

December 6th Keith Petersen, Jeff Tuschel, Wayne Otto, Joseph Nagel

December 13th James Ott (Server), Gary Vetter (Server), Len Arnold, Brett Glaeser

December 19th David Schultz, August Teesch

December 20th James Glaeser, Larry Hochkammer, Uriah Matznick, Marty Kiesow

Christmas Eve

December 24th Keith Petersen, Jeff Tuschel, Jeff Kasten, Alex Kasten

Christmas Day

December 25th Dave Williamson, Dan Knutson, Wayne Otto, Joseph Nagel

December 27th Gary Vetter (Server), Brian Glaeser (Server), Brett Glaeser, Len Arnold

If you are unable to make your scheduled service, please call Brian Glaeser @ 775-3941.

Communion Liturgy: Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for you for the remission of your sins.

May this strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto life everlasting. Depart in peace; your sins are forgiven. Amen.

Altar Guild: December – Group 4:

Marie Knutson, Darlene Kiesow, Marilyn Kaufmann, Grace Ott

Our Greeters For December



Dec. 6th –David & Dianne Schultz

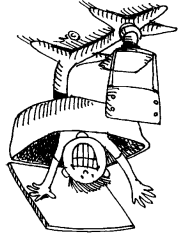
Dec.13th – Ed & Myrt Vetter

Dec.20th –Jim & Julie Glaeser

Dec.25th –Eileen & Steve Pleuss

De.27th – Gary & Lucille Vetter

Kids Corner



Bible Quiz – “Parents”

1. Who was John the Baptist’s mother ?
 - a. Lois
 - b. Elizabeth
 - c. Dinah
 - d. Mary

2. Who was Samuel’s mother?
 - a. Penninah
 - b. Deborah
 - c. Hannah
 - d. Eve

3. Who was Ruth’s mother-in-law?
 - a. Elizabeth
 - b. Naomi
 - c. Mary
 - d. Julie

4. Who was Saul the son of?
 - a. Kish
 - b. Obededom
 - c. Malchishua
 - d. Zachariah

5. These two were the sons of Zebedee.
 - a. Isaiah & Jeremiah
 - b. Judas & Thomas
 - c. Cain & Abel
 - d. James & John

Answers: 1.) **b** [Luke 1:57-60] 2.) **c** [1Samuel 1:20] 3.) **b** [Ruth 1:3-4] 4.) **a** [1Samuel 9:1-2] 5.) **d** [Mark 1:19]



Jesus Is Born

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